

Letter to Fenway Park
from a fan
10/6/97

51861 4967

Oct 6, 1997

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you in response to your plan on a Smoke-Free Fenway Park in 1996. I feel this affects me because I am an adult smoker who has visited Fenway Park many times.

In 1995 I attended 5 home games of the Red Sox. I took my young son to his first major league game this year. On each trip to Fenway I spent probably 150 dollars between tickets, gas, parking, food and souvenirs. That money went directly and indirectly to supporting Fenway Park, its workers its vendors. In 1996, I will not spend that money at Fenway because I will not be allowed to smoke a cigarette in the outdoor arena. I understand Fenway has a designated smoke area far away from the seats but that is not good enough. If I bring my young son I will not leave him unattended in an arena of 30,000 people. The situation will inconvenience me and I chose not to pay for that. If many of your adult smoking fans feel the same way, Fenway may feel a bit of a drop in sales in 1996.

I feel that it is ironic that the Smokers billboard was removed from right field to be replaced by a Red Dog Beer billboard. A large cartoon dog? What message are you sending to children now? I know Fenway would never bar alcohol from the arena because the park makes money from that. But do cigarettes cause fans to become rowdy, start fights and send adults to their cars impaired? Alcohol does that but it is accepted in your park. I do not believe this is fair.

In 1996 I think I will subscribe to NESN and watch all games from my home. It will save me money and I can still see the game. My son can go to games on school trips, etc. but I will not bring him myself. When

he asks why I will not go I will be honest and tell him that Fenway Park does not want people who smoke to go.

I would like a reply explaining to me why smokers are not welcome, why beer drinkers are and how Fenway really thinks they can enforce these rules.

Thank you for your time

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